

1931/32(?)

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Julius Joseph	H. D. Ramsdell
W. B. Starkweather	

DECORATIVE ARTS DEPARTMENT

COMMERCIAL DESIGN, FIRST YEAR .

Frederic Ehrlich	G. Herbert Kroll
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ADVANCED COMMERCIAL DESIGN

Frederic Ehrlich

POSTER COURSE

G. Herbert Kroll

FURNITURE DESIGN

Henry A. Goldsmith

COSTUME DESIGN

Ethel H. Traphagen

Constance Reed

MODELING DEPARTMENT

Geo. T. Brewster

Gaetano Cecere

ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING DEPARTMENT

Edward A. Miller, *Supervisor*

Casper P. Colla

Frank Martinelli

Edwin F. Cullity

Vespucci Petrone

Ferdinand Eiseman

Bruce Rabenold

Samuel Entwistle

William F. Richards

Harold M. Heatley

Francis W. Roudebush

Frieda Katzki, *Librarian*

Rose Magloff, *Librarian*

THE COOPER UNION FREE NIGHT SCHOOL OF ART

is composed of four departments:

I. Free-hand Drawing

III. Modeling

II. Decorative Arts

IV. Architectural Drawing

The courses under each of these are designed to give a sound general training in the subjects covered, and, in the more advanced classes, instruction and practice having special bearing on the particular branch chosen by the students.

The classes in Department I, for Free-hand Drawing, and in Department III, for Modeling, are open to men only. The other classes are open to men and women.

School Term and Hours of Study

The term begins Monday, Sept. 15, and ends about the first of May. The hours of study are from 7:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

The applicant when admitted, as vacancies permit, is assigned to one of two sections having respectively three or two sessions with instruction each week; the first section on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights, the second on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

This arrangement applies to the First Year, Second Year and Antique Classes of the Free-hand Drawing Department, and to Section I of the Modeling Department.

The Life Class, under the Free-hand Drawing Department, and Section II (Sculpture), under

the Modeling Department, have sessions on the first five nights of the week, with the living model posing on each of these.

The first and second year classes, under the Architectural Drawing Department, are divided into two sections, the first of these having sessions with instruction on Monday and Thursday; the second on Tuesday and Friday.

Conditions of Admission

Applicants must be at least *sixteen* years of age.

Residence in New York City is *not* a necessary condition of admission.

Applicants for admission to the Departments of Free-hand Drawing and Decorative Arts are required to submit in person examples of work done by them and will be notified as to the time and place for this submission. Those whose work is considered most promising will be admitted up to the capacity of the classes.

How to Apply for Admission

New applications will be received at the office of the Cooper Union in person between 9 A.M. and 5 P.M., or through the mail, between March 1st (*not before*) and September 6th. They may also be made in person between 7:30 and 9:30 P.M. from March 1st to May 1st (Saturdays excepted). A card will be sent to each applicant soon after his application has

been received, notifying him of the time and place to submit examples of his work. *Drawings will be examined only on the date specified.* Applications do not hold good from one season to the next, and those failing to be admitted during the ensuing year must renew their applications for the next.

Attendance

Students are required to be in their classrooms promptly by 7:30 P.M. Students who are absent two consecutive nights without adequate excuse, or those who are absent for a month for whatever reason, will be dropped from the rolls. In order to retain their places in class, students who are compelled by illness or other causes to be absent, are required in all cases to communicate with their instructors. Places will not be retained for those who do not appear promptly at the beginning of the term.

Materials

Students must provide, at their own expense, necessary materials, such as paper, pencils, charcoal, colors, brushes, drawing boards, and modeling material. For the Architectural classes, drawing instruments also are necessary. These may all be purchased in the school supply store.

Drawings

The drawings made in the school will be the property of the students, with the exception of

FIRST YEAR CLASS. This is the class for beginners in free-hand drawing. Construction, practical perspective, as well as light and shade, are studied by drawing, at first from geometrical solids, next from objects in pottery, glass, metal, etc., casts of ornamental forms, and of the human head, hands, feet, etc.

SECOND YEAR CLASS. The work of this class logically follows that of the first year; it embraces drawing from plaster casts of ornamental forms of various historic styles, as well as of natural objects, and continuation of drawing from casts of the human head and figure, entire or in detail. Applicants wishing to enter this class without taking the first year course may be admitted on submitting drawings proving their fitness for the same.

ANTIQUE CLASS. The work of this year embraces drawings from casts of antique sculpture, details and full length figures, as well as from casts from nature. Applicants wishing to enter this class without taking the work of the first and second years may be admitted on submitting drawings proving their fitness for the same.

LIFE CLASS. The work of this class consists in drawing from the living figure. Students to be advanced to this section must have done satisfactory work from casts of the full length figure. New applicants may be admitted on submitting drawings proving their fitness for the class.

II. DECORATIVE ARTS DEPARTMENT

OPEN TO MEN AND WOMEN

This department offers courses in the principles which underlie the practice of all decorative design, and also courses in the application of these principles to various practical fields of industrial art.

The advanced student is guided toward practical efficiency by instruction and practice in the technique of drawing as used for the various forms of applied design indicated on the following page.

The study of commercial design should be preceded by a course in free-hand drawing; and practice in the latter should be continued along with the special work of this department.

Commercial Design Course

FIRST YEAR CLASS

Fundamental principles are defined through a series of problems and lectures having a direct bearing on the work of Advertising and Commercial Design. Decorative arrangement, abstract and naturalistic motifs; lettering; color; landscape composition; catalogue covers; folders; monofolds and such other practical problems as have a direct relation to the work required in the commercial field. (Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights.)

Advanced Commercial Designing Course

Students who have completed the First Year Class in Commercial Design or who submit satisfactory drawings are eligible to this course.

Designs in black and white; abstract motifs; head and tail pieces; pen technique; newspaper and magazine layouts; monofolds; french folds; catalogue covers; title pages and dummies.

The above is a carefully arranged course, wherein the student receives such problems as would present themselves in a commercial designing establishment. Lectures throughout the term. (Tuesday and Thursday nights.)

Poster Course

FIRST YEAR CLASS

Students who have completed the work of the First Year Class of the Commercial Design Course are eligible for this class. New applicants are required to submit examples of their work in color and lettering.

In this class are taught the fundamental principles of poster designing; drawing and painting of various objects in poster quality and treatment; lettering; color harmony and contrast; balance of areas and composition. (Tuesday and Thursday nights.)

Drawing and Pencil Technique Course

In this course the students are taught the use and proper handling of the pencil in the

drawing of objects. Practical perspective, light and shade, blocking in the human head and figure. (Tuesday night.)

Furniture Design Course

THREE YEARS

This class is maintained in the Cooper Union Museum for the Arts of Decoration, on the fourth floor of the building.

Having at hand the rich collection of examples of historic decorative art there available for study and provided with larger working spaces, this class also permits the preparation in full scale of working drawings, with constructive detail and ornament ready for the guidance of the carver and furniture maker.

Admission to this class is limited to applicants submitting satisfactory evidence of training in free-hand and mechanical drawing sufficient to meet the needs of the class work.

Students after having completed two years of this course will be eligible for admission to a third year class covering a course in perspective applied to interiors with furniture, fully constructed and rendered. (Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights.)

Costume Design and Illustration Course

TWO YEARS

Admission to this course is limited to those who have had at least the First Year's work in the Free-hand Drawing Course, or its equivalent.

The Course in Costume Illustration is intended for students possessing fair ability in drawing. The aim is to prepare for costume drawing for magazines, newspapers, catalogues and various forms of advertising. The mediums of pencil, pen, water color, wash and tempera are used. Study of historic costume is required in connection with museum and library problems to develop understanding and taste. (Tuesday and Friday evenings.)

III. MODELING DEPARTMENT

OPEN TO MEN ONLY

Section I. Modeling for Industrial Workers

THREE YEARS

In Section I of this department, elementary and advanced modeling for interior decoration and for other industrial applications is taught with a special view to fitting the student for practical work, whether in wood, plaster, terra cotta, stone, or metal.

In addition to ornamental forms, the head and figure are studied from casts. The student is familiarized with architectural and other historic ornament. Practice in modeling from the flat forms part of the training; also the making of plaster and glue moulds, and of casts from these.

Experience shows that the young worker in industrial modeling and carving is ill-advised who relies on shop practice only for his advancement in skill. Only in rare cases will he attain good rank as a decorative modeler and carver without a school training similar to that given in this section.

While no entrance examination is required, some previous practice in drawing is highly desirable, and continuation in the same along with the course in modeling is advised.

Section II. Sculpture

The course in this section is an advanced one, embracing modeling from the living figure and plastic composition, either of decorative figure subjects in conjunction with architecture, or in figures and groups as independent sculpture.

The course is designed to prepare its students to become able assistants or to practice sculpture independently.

Considerable proficiency is required for admission to this section.

IV. ARCHITECTURAL DRAWING DEPARTMENT

OPEN TO MEN AND WOMEN

This department consists of two divisions: Division I for Construction, Division II for the Study of the Orders; each has a course of four years.

For the purpose of determining the general mental fitness of the candidate for undertaking the work of the course, all applicants will be examined by means of a written intelligence test.

Division I. For the Study of Construction

The course of study in this division is designed first of all to give a knowledge of architectural constructive drawings to those employed in the building trades, and also to assistants in architects' offices.

Opportunity is afforded for special instruction to meet the needs of young men in different branches of the building trades in framing, brick and stone work, stair building, plan reading and estimating, etc.

FIRST YEAR: General use of drawing instruments, pen and brush: detailed construction of frame, brick and stone work by scaled drawings of plans, elevations and sections of windows, doors, etc.; isometric drawings of framing—all from blackboard instruction.

SECOND YEAR: Mechanics' details; sections and developments as prepared by architectural draughtsmen for the shop; the construction from true section only of monumental work; details of platform and winding stair work applied in a design of an interior in a classic style—all from blackboard instruction.

THIRD YEAR: Plans, sections, elevations and details of a country residence, and of a city residence, including shadows and rendering. Sketches to be prepared by student and submitted for correction.

One evening a week is devoted to the subject of Plan Reading and Estimating, which will cover instruction in the methods of estimating for the various kinds of work involved in modern buildings, such as country houses, city residences, loft buildings, in conformity with the provisions of the Building Code of New York City.

FOURTH YEAR: Plans, sections, elevation and details of a monumental city structure in a classic style. Continued instruction in shadows and rendering. The student's own design, developed under instruction, to be finished by himself.

Division II. For the Study of the Orders

This course is intended to give assistants in offices of architects, designers, and interior decorators a knowledge of the elements of

architectural design through a study of the classic details of architecture.

FIRST YEAR: The Tuscan and Doric Orders and their application to the simpler elements: columns, pediments, pedestals, balustrades, arches, doorways and simple façade compositions.

SECOND YEAR: More extended study of the five Orders and their application to façade composition, interiors, and pavillions, superimposition of Orders, vaulting, etc.

THIRD YEAR: Extension of second year's work, introducing variations of the Orders in the several periods.

FOURTH YEAR: This year will be devoted to the study of a complete building, exterior and interior, from the student's own design, developed by him under instruction.